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February 3, 2010

BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE
OFFICE OF THE BUREAU CHIEF

FEB 04 2010

Mr. Paul Stacey
Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Planning and Standards Division
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Re: Proposed Stream Flow Regulations

Dear Mr. Stacey:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Town Council of the Town of North Branford relative to the proposed regulations for stream flows in the State of Connecticut.

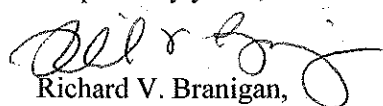
After reviewing the information provided thus far and after careful consideration by the Council at their meeting of February 2nd, I have been asked to convey the Council's **request to have the implementation of these regulations delayed for a one (1) year period.**

It is the Town's opinion that such a delay will not significantly impact the spirit of the regulations and the important problems they are seeking to resolve, but will allow the stakeholders from various points of interest, to add valuable input prior to the formal adoption. In particular, there is concern for the impact of these requirements on both water suppliers and end users (including agricultural uses which are critical to many of our residents here in North Branford).

In addition, there is concern that the implementation by the Department of Environmental Protection may be difficult due to ongoing and well documented staffing shortages. Since compliance with the proposed regulations is dependent on the proper classification of river and streams, it would seem that this step would be the most critical for all involved and may need to be the primary focus of legislators in addressing these issues.

Thank you for in advance for receiving this information and for including it in the public hearing record on February 4th. Should you require any additional information relative to this issue, you may feel free to contact me via e-mail at townmanager@townofnorthbranfordct.com or by telephone at 203-484-6000.

Respectfully yours,


Richard V. Branigan,
Town Manager

cc. Town Council
Senator Edward Meyer
Representative Vincent Candelora



1971